(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to go ahead with the process of disinvestment;

(c) the target set for disinvestment for the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004; and

(d) in what manner Government plan to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Disinvestment of Government equity in PSUs is a continuous process. On the basis of reports issued by the Disinvestment Commission and proposals of Ministry of Disinvestment (MODI), the Government keeps considering proposals through Inter-Ministerial consultations. The procedure adopted for disinvestment has been refined over time with the objective of administrative simplicity, transparency and fair play so that maximum value can be realized from the sale of shares. There is an established procedure for detailed and frequent Inter-Ministerial consultations. Different points of view on the appropriate way to proceed or inferences drawn from experience are similarly harmonized through inter-ministerial consultations. The Cabinet Committee on Disinvestment is itself a forum at which, apart from final decisions being taken, issues of policy or procedures are thoroughly discussed.

(c) and (d) A target of Rs. 78,000 crore has been set for disinvestment over the Tenth Five Year Plan Period. For the year 2002-03, the target is Rs. 12,000. crore. No target has been fixed for the year 2003-04. In order to realize the target, this Ministry is at present processing disinvestment in 54 cases. All efforts are being made to complete the procedural requirements to finalise these cases.

Malaria cases in the Country

484. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2.2 million cases of Malaria are registered each year, in the country and most of the deaths are due to infections diseases;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken to control Malaria and the related deaths; and

(c) the details of steps Government propose to take to provide low cost malaria medicine to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per reports received from the States, 2.2 million cases of Malaria were recorded in 1999. During each of the years 2000 and 2001, the number of cases reported were 2.03 million. Number of deaths due to Malaria were 1048 during 1999, 931 in 2000 and 1003 in 2001.

(b) For control of Malaria and related deaths, National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) has been in operation in the country as a Category-II Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Central Govt. provide assistance to the State in the form of drugs, insecticides and larvicides. In addition, an Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP) with World Bank Support in pre-dominantly tribal areas of 8 States is being implemented for control of Malaria since 1997. 100% Central Assistance is also being provided to North Eastern States for Malaria control since December, 1994.

Strategies adopted for control of Malaria include:—

- Early case detection and prompt treatment
- Selective vector control
- Promotion of personal protection methods
- Early detection and containment of epidemics
- Information, Education and Communication towards personal prevention and community participation.
- Institutional and Management Capacity Building, Trained Manpower Development and efficient Management Information System (MIS).

(c) Anti-malaria drugs are provided free of cost to the patients.

Incident of death in Rahat Bhagat Nursing Home

485. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: